

1 HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 5

2 48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007

3 INTRODUCED BY

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10 A JOINT MEMORIAL

11 URGING CONGRESS TO FULLY FUND MEDICAL CARE AND AID AND  
12 ATTENDANT CARE SERVICES FOR HONEY SUE NEWBY AND THE OTHER  
13 LEVEL THREE SPINA BIFIDA CHILDREN OF PARENTS WHO SERVED IN  
14 VIETNAM AND WHO ARE TOTALLY DISABLED.

15  
16 WHEREAS, the federal department of veterans affairs  
17 acknowledges that one thousand two hundred children of Vietnam  
18 war veterans have some degree of disability resulting from  
19 their birth parents' exposure to agent orange during military  
20 service in the Vietnam war; and

21 WHEREAS, approximately two hundred of these children of  
22 war veterans are designated as level three spina bifida  
23 children, who are considered to be totally disabled; and

24 WHEREAS, these children, designated as totally disabled  
25 as a result of their birth parents' exposure to agent orange

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1 during military service in Vietnam, are in a situation that is  
2 indistinguishable from that of any one hundred percent  
3 service-connected disabled veteran who is totally disabled as  
4 the result of military service; and

5 WHEREAS, these two hundred level three spina bifida  
6 children of Vietnam war veterans are not treated equally with  
7 the disabled military veterans as regards compensatory medical  
8 care and aid and attendant care; and

9 WHEREAS, the financial cost for families of these  
10 children can be crippling, and many proud American military  
11 veterans and their families must depend on welfare or charity  
12 to provide the vital medical care and attendant care their  
13 children need; and

14 WHEREAS, at least one of these children, Honey Sue Newby,  
15 whose birth father served three tours as a marine infantryman  
16 in Vietnam, resides in New Mexico; and

17 WHEREAS, the legislature seeks to honor and encourage  
18 fair treatment of all persons who have made personal  
19 sacrifices in the military defense of our nation;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
21 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it urge the United States congress to  
22 provide full medical care and attendant care to Honey Sue  
23 Newby and the other level three spina bifida children who are  
24 totally disabled as a result of their birth parents' military  
25 service in Vietnam; and

